

What is claimed is:

1 1. A motor vehicle provided with a folding top, which is supported by a frame of the
2 motor vehicle and can be set in an open position or in a closed position, and comprises an
3 element of covering substantially horizontal in the closed position; said element of covering
4 being hinged at the rear to the frame of the motor vehicle so that it can rotate about a first
5 horizontal axis when the folding top passes from the open position to the closed position or vice
6 versa, said element of covering is made up of two half-elements which are connected together in
7 such a way that one half-element of front covering is brought to rest on one half-element of the
8 rear covering when the folding top passes from the closed position to the open position, whereby
9 when said folding top is in the closed position, the two half-elements are substantially aligned
10 with respect to one another, and, when the folding top is in the open position, the two half-
11 elements are substantially set on top of one another, said element of covering comprises a rigid
12 outer frame, a hollow central portion surrounded by the outer frame, and a closing body, said
13 closing body is supported by the outer frame and is mobile between a position of engagement, in
14 which it completely closes the central portion, and a position of disengagement, in which it
15 leaves open at least one part of the central portion, when the folding top (6) is in the open
16 position, closing body of the hollow central portion is in the position of disengagement and said
17 folding top in the open position has a substantially Cis C-shape.

1 2. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein said element of covering has
2 two rear appendages, said appendages being set perpendicular to the element of covering,
3 substantially vertical in the closed position, and hinged to the frame in a position
4 corresponding to their free ends.

1 3. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein, when the folding top passes
2 from the open position to the closed position or vice versa, the element of covering performs
3 a rotation through approximately 180° about the first horizontal axis with respect to the frame
4 of the motor vehicle.

1 4. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein said two half-elements are
2 hinged together so as to rotate with respect to one another about a second horizontal axis
3 parallel to the first axis; when the folding top passes from the open position to the closed
4 position or vice versa, the half-element of front covering being able to rotate with respect to
5 the half-element of rear covering about the second horizontal axis.

1 5. The motor vehicle according to Claim 4, wherein when the folding top passes
2 from the open position to the closed position or vice versa the half-element of front covering
3 performs a rotation substantially of 180° about the second horizontal axis with respect to the
4 half-element of rear covering.

1 6. The motor vehicle according to Claim 4, wherein the half-element of front
2 covering is connected to the half-element of rear covering in such a way that a top surface of
3 the half-element of front covering rests on a top surface of the half-element of rear covering.

1 7. The motor vehicle according to Claim 4, wherein the half-element of front
2 covering is connected to the half-element of rear covering in such a way that a bottom surface
3 of the half-element of front covering rests on a bottom surface of the half-element of rear
4 covering.

1 8. The motor vehicle according to Claim 4, wherein the two half-elements are
2 connected together in such a way that the half-element of front covering performs a
3 translation or a rototranslation to set itself on top of the half-element of rear covering.

1 9. The motor vehicle according to Claim 8, wherein the two half-elements are
2 connected together in such a way that the half-element of front covering performs a

3 translation or a rototranslation or rotation to set itself on top of the half-element of rear
4 covering.

1 10. The motor vehicle according to Claim 8, wherein the half-element of front
2 covering is connected to the half-element of rear covering in such a way that a top surface of
3 the half-element of front covering rests, by means of a translation or a rototranslation or
4 rotation, on a bottom surface of the half-element of rear covering.

1 11. The motor vehicle according to Claim 8, wherein the half-element of front
2 covering is connected to the half-element of rear covering in such a way that a bottom surface
3 of the half-element of front covering rests, by means of a translation or a rototranslation, on a
4 top surface of the half-element of rear covering.

1 12. The motor vehicle according to Claim 9 , wherein the half-element of front
2 covering is connected to the half-element of rear covering is connected to the half-element of
3 rear covering by means of a pair of deformable quadrilaterals.

1 13. The motor vehicle according to Claim 12, in which the half-elements of
2 covering comprise a substantially horizontal central portion, delimited laterally by a pair of
3 substantially vertical side portions; each deformable quadrilateral comprising a first hook-
4 shaped arm, which has one end hinged to the side portion of the half-element of rear covering
5 so that it can rotate about a third substantially horizontal axis and one opposite end hinged to
6 the side portion of the half-element of front covering so that it can rotate about a fourth
7 substantially horizontal axis, a second L-shaped arm, which has one end hinged to the side
8 portion of the half-element of rear covering so that it can rotate about a fifth substantially
9 horizontal axis and one opposite end hinged to the end of a third arm so that it can rotate
10 about a sixth substantially horizontal axis; at the other end, the third arm being hinged both to
11 the hook-shaped arm and to the side portion of the half-element of front covering so that it
12 can rotate about the fourth axis.

1 14. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein the outer frame surrounds
2 the central portion substantially on three sides.

1 15. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein the outer frame surrounds
2 the central portion on four sides.

1 16. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein the closing body is
2 deformable so as to pass from a distended configuration corresponding to the position of
3 engagement to a gathered-up configuration corresponding to the position of disengagement.

1 17. The motor vehicle according to Claim 16, wherein the closing body comprises
2 a flexible canvas, which is slidably mounted on two side members of the outer frame to slide
3 between the position of engagement and the position of disengagement.

1 18. The motor vehicle according to Claim 17, wherein a front portion of the
2 canvas is mounted on a pair of first slides, each of which is slidably mounted along a
3 respective side member of the outer frame.

1 19. The motor vehicle according to Claim 16, wherein the closing body is of a
2 plate-like type and comprises a set of rigid plates, which are hinged in a slidable way on two
3 side members of the outer frame to slide between the position of engagement, in which the
4 plates are set horizontally alongside one another, and the position of disengagement, in which
5 the plates are set in a substantially vertical position packed on top of one another.

1 20. The motor vehicle according to Claim 19, wherein each plate is mounted on a
2 pair of second slides, each of which is slidably mounted along a respective side member of
3 the outer frame.

1 21. The motor vehicle according to Claim 16, wherein the closing body is slidably
2 mounted on two side members of the outer frame; each side member comprising both a first
3 seat designed to be engaged by a number of first slides supporting a flexible canvas, and a
4 second seat designed to be engaged by a number of second slides supporting a set of rigid
5 plates.

1 22. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein the closing body comprises
2 at least one fixed panel and at least one mobile panel, which is designed to slide underneath
3 the fixed panel.

1 23. The motor vehicle according to Claim 22, wherein the closing body comprises
2 a single fixed panel set in a rear position and a single mobile panel, which is set in a front
3 position and is designed to slide underneath the fixed panel.

1 24. The motor vehicle according to Claim 22, wherein the closing body comprises
2 two fixed panels, one set in a front position and one a rear position and two mobile panels set
3 in a central position; each mobile panel being designed to slide underneath a respective fixed
4 panel.

1 25. The motor vehicle according to Claim 22, wherein the closing body comprises
2 a set of fixed panels and a set of mobile panels; a single mobile panel being designed to slide
3 underneath a corresponding fixed panel.

1 26. The motor vehicle according to Claim 22, wherein the closing body comprises
2 a set of fixed panels and a set of mobile panels; a number of mobile panels are designed to
3 slide underneath one and the same corresponding fixed panel.

1 27. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein the frame comprises a pair
2 of vertical uprights, which are set on opposite sides of a passenger compartment, carry hinged
3 thereto the element of covering, and perform the function of roll-bar in the event of the motor
4 vehicle itself turning over.

1 28. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein at the rear of the point of
2 hinging of the element of covering there is made a housing, which is supported by the frame
3 and is closed by a respective lid, hinged so as to rotate with respect to the frame about a
4 seventh horizontal axis parallel to the first axis.

1 29. The motor vehicle according to Claim 28, wherein the frame supports a rear
2 engine compartment, which has a top lid, said housing being C-shaped and set around the top
3 lid of the engine compartment.

1 30. The motor vehicle according to Claim 29, wherein the top lid of the engine
2 compartment is transparent.

1 31. The motor vehicle according to Claim 28, wherein the frame comprises a pair
2 of vertical uprights, which are set on opposite sides of a passenger compartment and carry
3 hinged thereto the element of covering, said lid of the housing comprising two vertical fins
4 set laterally on opposite sides of the lid and designed to rest on the vertical uprights of the
5 frame when the lid is in a closed position.

1 32. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1, wherein there is provided a
2 transparent plane panel, which is set substantially vertical and defines a rear window.

1 33. The motor vehicle according to Claim 32, wherein the transparent panel is
2 mounted so as to displace parallel to itself in a substantially vertical direction between an
3 extracted position, in which the transparent panel comes out of the bodywork, and a retracted
4 position, in which the transparent panel is housed inside the bodywork in a respective seat.

1 34. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1 wherein said first horizontal axis is a
2 fixed axis.

1 35. The motor vehicle according to Claim 1 wherein said first horizontal axis is a
2 mobile axis.